

This year, the Chamber selected Barbara Webber for her embodiment of professional excellence, her commitment to the community through years of service, and for her encouragement of fellow women leaders as she guides and assists them in reaching their full potential.

Barbara has an unprecedented number of qualifications that helped earn her this award. Moving to Jefferson County in 1968, she quickly became known in the community as a beloved teacher and a familiar face at public meetings and events. For her more than 30 years of service as an educator, Barbara was recognized by the Carthage Central School District as a Distinguished Contributor and was inducted into their Hall of Achievement. Barbara made history when she was elected to serve as the first African American woman on the Jefferson County Board of Legislators. She has been steadfast in her support of Fort Drum and our troops, and was named one of the original Women of the Mountain for her dedication. As a member of dozens of volunteer-based organizations in the North Country, Barbara continues to devote her life to serving others. Her commitment to advancing young women stood out through her role on the New York State Board of Directors for the Miss New York Scholarship Pageant, where she has inspired hundreds of young North Country women to strive for excellence.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to congratulate Barbara Webber on her well-deserved award, and thank her for her commitment to strengthening our North Country community. Barbara sets a powerful example for serving others, and I am proud to recognize her for a lifetime of achievements.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT
JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great enthusiasm that I honor Saint John the Baptist Church in Gary, Indiana, as the congregation commemorates the church's 100th anniversary. The church members and leaders will be celebrating this momentous milestone, "100 Years on the Vine," with a Gala Banquet on September 21, 2018, followed by morning and evening services on September 23, 2018.

For the past 100 years, Saint John the Baptist has had numerous influential pastors lead its congregation in faith and community, including Reverend A.J. Allen, Reverend T.L. Ballou, Reverend Leon Davis, Reverend Ivor Moore, Reverend Julius James, Reverend Raymond McDonald II, Reverend Rodney Griffin, and the current pastor, Reverend R.E. Robinson, to name a few.

Saint John the Baptist's great history includes many poignant and significant moments. Because of Reverend Julius James' close friendship with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Dr. King made his first visit to Gary, Indiana. After the passing of Dr. King, Pastor James established the Ecumenical Celebration, which honors the legacy and goodwill of Dr. King. At that time, the church also started its not-for-profit housing development, The Saint John's Homes, which supported fair employment and housing in Gary.

Reverend R.E. Robinson and the congregation continue to serve the citizens of Gary as well as the entire community throughout Northwest Indiana. Under Pastor Robinson's leadership, the congregation continues to grow, and numerous community projects have been completed. For their service and guidance to those most in need, the members and leadership of Saint John the Baptist Church are worthy of the highest praise.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating Saint John the Baptist Church of Gary, Indiana, on its 100th anniversary. The congregation and leadership deserve the highest commendation for their devotion and commitment to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond.

HONORING BMC RACING

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize BMC Racing for their success in the 2018 Tour de France.

BMC Racing is headquartered in Santa Rosa, California, in my district. Headed by former American cyclist Jim Ochowicz, who serves as President and team manager, the team sent six cyclists to the Tour this year, including Tejay van Garderen of Tacoma, Washington.

At the 2018 Tour de France, BMC proved its abilities once again at the highest levels of competition in the cycling world. The team finished eighth overall in the 2018 Tour de France, emerged victorious in the Stage 3 Team Time Trial, and earned seven yellow jerseys—along with five stage victories. Individual team members also did well: Greg Van Avermaet stood in first places for eight consecutive stages, while Damiano Caruso finished in 20th place overall.

The BMC organization regularly trains in Santa Rosa and the wine country area. They are also active in the community. Their "Cycle with Champions" ride is done in conjunction with Team Swift, a local youth cycling organization, and many organization officials have ties to the Santa Rosa region. BMC has a history of producing champion cyclists, and once again displayed their resilience and dedication in 2018. At the finish line, Damiano Caruso summed up the overall morale of the team, saying, "At the end of three weeks, I can say that my experience was positive."

Mr. Speaker, BMC Racing has deep roots in the Santa Rosa community, and continues to inspire generations of young cyclists. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor the cyclists and owners on their accomplishment in this year's Tour de France.

THANKING MR. JOHN LARRY CARTER
FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE
HOUSE

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, on his retirement on October 3, 2018, I rise today to thank John

Larry Carter for over 36 years of outstanding service to the United States House of Representatives.

John "Larry" Carter is a rarity, in that he spent nearly his entire career at the U.S. House of Representatives. He also joined the U.S. Navy Reserves in October 2000 and continues to serve the Reserves today, rising to the rank of Chief Petty Officer, conferred on September 16, 2016.

Thinking at first it was an April Fool's joke, Larry began his Congressional journey on April 1, 1982 as a laborer under the Clerk, Don Anderson, moving furniture throughout the House campus and working as a store-room clerk. Due to his outstanding work ethic he quickly moved up the ranks to Inventory Control Specialist and began inventorying furniture and completing service orders.

In the span of 3 short years, Larry was a laborer's helper, group leader, warehousing specialist and eventual finisher in the Finishing Shop. It is here in the Finishing Shop with the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) that Larry really shined. He spent the bulk of his career in the Finishing Shop, utilizing his experience from vocational school, to work on such projects as the House Floor, chairs and seats in the House Chamber, the dais, the House Speaker's Chair, and the page desks in the back. One of his major accomplishment is the original lectern still used today on the House Floor. Larry's imprint is on many furniture pieces in Congress and will no doubt be his legacy.

Larry was promoted to Manager of Furnishings in 1999, a position he still holds today, and considers one of his greatest career accomplishments. Larry's enthusiasm for doing the right thing and helping others to understand the challenges of safety and perfection for finishing furniture is immeasurable. Larry's list of accomplishments is long, and some of his most exemplary work can be seen on Speaker Tip O'Neill's Desk and the desk of Speaker Tom Foley, which included hand-painted birds on the desk. The finishing work that he and his staff completed in the House Chamber on the chairs and dais, will surely stand the test of time. He also made major contributions to 17 Congressional Transitions, assisted with Departmental budgets, developed his employee's training plans, and mentoring them to accept greater responsibilities and an appreciation for fine furniture.

Larry, as an aviation enthusiast, has mentioned as one of his fondest Congressional memories, besides all his finishing work accomplishments, is when he had the privilege to meet the Tuskegee Airmen at the Rayburn House Office Building. They were being feted and awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, Congress's Highest Civilian Award, bestowed in 2006.

His compilation of the great antiquities found on the Hill truly is a great legacy he will leave behind since it will help future historians better understand the Capitol's and House of Representatives' true treasures. Mr. Carter has always been prompt, courteous, and helpful in dealings I have had with him. His expertise, skill, and knowledge will be missed.

Following his retirement, Larry intends to stay in Military Service and would like to spend more time with his wife of 25 years, Debby, and his three children. He plans to continue his active lifestyle, fishing, running, teaching aviation, and spending quality time with his family.